

City of Columbus Yard Waste Fact Sheet

April 2010

- ◆ Free weekly yard waste pick-up will be restored to 2008 levels on April 19, 2010
- ◆ Residents can contact the city's 311 Customer Service Center at 311 or 645-3111 to find out which day of the week is their yard waste collection day
- ◆ The weekly yard waste pick-up service will be provided to 227,000 single-family homes, the same level of service as in 2008 before the city's budget crisis forced the program to be cut
 - The 227,000 single-family homes includes households that use 90 and 300-gallon regular trash containers (NOTE: Yard waste should never be mixed with regular trash)
- ◆ Yard waste includes organic waste generated during regular household gardening and landscaping activities, including:
 - Grass clippings
 - Leaves
 - Twigs
 - Branches
 - Shrubbery
- ◆ Items that will not be collected with yard waste:
 - Rocks
 - Dirt
 - Plastic bags
 - Food waste

(Please call Rumpke at 1-888-786-7531 if you have questions about what materials are acceptable)
- ◆ To prepare yard waste for pick-up:
 - Place yard waste in biodegradable (paper) bags or rigid containers marked "Yard Waste"
 - Bags are generally available for purchase at home improvement or grocery retailers stores. *Please do not line the paper bags with plastic bags.*
 - Cut branches to less than four feet in length
 - Tie the branches into bundles with string or twine
 - Each bundle should not be wider than two feet
- ◆ There is no restriction on the number of bags a household can put out for pickup
 - Each container, bag or bundle must weigh less than 50 pounds (Containers meeting this requirement will likely have a 30-35 gallon capacity)

-more-

- ◆ Recycling yard waste saves tax dollars and is green:
 - It saves tax dollars that would have otherwise been needed to dump yard waste at the landfill (NOTE: Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio rules prohibit the City of Columbus or others from knowingly dumping yard waste at the Franklin County Landfill)
 - Extends the life of the County landfill
 - Increases weekly refuse container capacity for residents
 - Recycled yard waste can be composted and used in home gardens and landscaping to beautify our homes and neighborhoods

- ◆ The contract with Rumpke:
 - Is a three year contract running through March 31, 2013, with two one-year renewal periods following the end of the first three years
 - The first year totals up to \$3,677,400.00 in funding from the City's General Fund
 - This contract saves money compared to the 2008 Rumpke yard waste contract. This contract is nearly \$42,000 less than the 2008 contract and it serves 3,000 more households than did the 2008 contract
 - The cost per household is \$1.35/per household for 12 months, compared to \$1.38/household in 2008
 - Was approved by City Council at its February 22, 2010 regular meeting

- ◆ City of Columbus residents may still drop-off their yard waste, free-of-charge, at any of nine locations if they wish to do so. Please call ahead for hours of operation.
 - Com-Til, the City's compost facility (no grass clippings): 7000 Jackson Pike, Columbus (614) 645-3152
 - Kurtz Bros. and Mulch Manufacturing Inc. (leaves, small branches, grass clippings):
 - 2850 Rohr Road, Groveport (Kurtz Bros.); (614) 491-0868
 - 6055-C Westerville Road, Westerville (Kurtz Bros.); (614) 882-0200
 - 6279 Houchard Road, Dublin (Kurtz Bros.); (614) 873-2000
 - 6747 Taylor Road S.W. (Mulch Manufacturing, Inc.); (614) 864-4004
 - Ohio Mulch:
 - 4120 Roberts Road, Columbus (Ohio Mulch); (614) 921-9330
 - 4665 Westerville Rd. (Ohio Mulch); (614) 891-3242
 - 1600 Universal Rd. (Ohio Mulch); (614) 445-4455
 - 537 Reynoldsburg-New Albany Rd. (Ohio Mulch); (614) 863-0445